

3

When the cover **13** is at the first position, a distance between each first protruding portion **1051** and its corresponding second protruding portion **1052** is equal to a distance between the first surface **100** of the housing **10** and the lower surface **1303** of the cover **13**. When the cover **13** is pressed to a second position in which the hooks **131** are engaged with the second protruding portions **1052**, the contacting portion **110** of each contact **11** protrudes beyond the upper surface **1302**.

When the electrical connector **1** is put into use, the IC module **2** is positioned on the upper surface **1302** of the cover **13** and pushed toward the housing **10** in a vertical direction. Thus the springs **12** are compressed, and the cover **13** is actuated to move toward the housing **10**. As a result, the hooks **131** move from respective first positions to respective second positions.

The contacts **11** move in the corresponding openings **1301** toward the upper surface **1302**. When the first surface **100** reaches the lower surface **1303**, the cover **13** is in the second position. The hooks **131** engage with the second protruding portions **1052**, and the contacting portions **110** of the contacts **11** protrude from the upper surface **1302** and electrically connect with corresponding conductive portions of the IC module **2**.

When the electrical connector **1** is not in use, the cover **13** is in the first position. The contacts **11** are partially received in the openings **1301** of the cover **13** without protruding thereout. Thus the contacts **11** are protected from accidental damage caused by factors such as rough handling or accidental impact.

While the present invention has been described with reference to a specific embodiment, the description is illustrative of the invention and is not to be construed as limiting the invention. Various modifications can be made to the preferred embodiment by those skilled in the art without departing from the true spirit and scope of the invention as defined by the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. An electrical connector used for electrically connecting an integrated circuit to a printed circuit board comprising:
 an insulative housing defining a first surface, a second surface and a plurality of passageways spanning the first and second surfaces;
 a cover defining an upper surface carrying the integrated circuit, a lower surface toward the first surface of the housing, and a plurality of openings corresponding to the passageways of the housing;
 at least one spring received between the housing and the cover, an end of the spring engaged with the housing and another end of the spring suppressed by the cover;
 a plurality of contacts received in the passageways of the housing; wherein
 the cover is supported by the spring and movably mounted on the housing, which enables the cover to slide on the housing along a direction perpendicular to the first and second surfaces wherein the housing defines a plurality restricting slots, each restricting slot having a first protruding portion and a second protruding portion at the sidewalls thereof, the cover defines a plurality of openings thereon and forms a plurality of hooks corresponding to the restricting slots.

2. The electrical connector as described in claim **1**, wherein the housing defines a plurality of blind holes on a peripheral portion of the housing, each blind hole extending from the first surface toward the second surface and terminating at a supporting face therein.

4

3. The electrical connector as described in claim **1**, wherein a distance between the first protruding portion and the second protruding is substantially equal to a distance between the first surface of the housing and the lower surface of the cover when the hooks cooperate with the first protruding portions.

4. An electrical connector used for electrically connecting an integrated circuit to a printed circuit board comprising:

an insulative housing defining a first surface, a second surface and a plurality of passageways spanning the first and second surfaces;

a cover slidably mounted on the housing and defining an upper surface for carrying the integrated circuit and a lower surface toward the first surface of the housing, the cover defining a plurality of openings corresponding to the passageways of the housing;

at least one spring upwardly urging the cover away from the housing;

a plurality of contacts received in the passageways of the housing, each contact defining a contacting portion positioned between the upper surface of the cover and the first surface of the housing, and partially received in a corresponding opening; wherein,

when the cover is pressed downward, the contacting portions of the contacts protrude from the openings of the cover to connect with the integrated circuit.

5. The electrical connector as described in claim **1**, wherein the housing defines a plurality of blind holes on a peripheral portion of the housing, each blind hole extending from the first surface toward the second surface and terminating at a supporting face therein.

6. The electrical connector as described in claim **1**, wherein said openings are laterally segregated from one another.

7. The electrical connector as described in claim **1**, wherein said contacts are in a relaxed manner when the contacting portions are located between the upper surface of the cover and the first surface of the housing.

8. The electrical connector as described in claim **1**, wherein the housing defines a plurality of restricting slots at opposite sidewalls thereof, each restricting slot having a first protruding portion and a second protruding portion.

9. The electrical connector as described in claim **8**, wherein the cover forms a plurality of hooks corresponding to the restricting slots.

10. The electrical connector as described in claim **9**, wherein a distance between the first protruding portion and the second protruding is substantially equal to a distance between the first surface of the housing and the lower surface of the cover when the hooks engage with the first protruding portions.

11. An electrical connector used for electrically connecting an integrated circuit to a printed circuit board comprising:

an insulative housing defining a first surface, a second surface and a plurality of passageways spanning the first and second surfaces, the housing defining a plurality restricting slots, each restricting slot having a first protruding portion and a second protruding portion;

a cover slidably mounted on the housing defining an upper surface supporting the integrated circuit, a lower surface toward the first surface of the housing, and a plurality of openings corresponding to the passageways of the housing, the cover defining a plurality of hooks corresponding to the restricting slots of the housing;

at least one spring received between the housing and the cover, an end of the spring engaged with the housing and another end of the spring suppressed by the cover;